

In the Claims:

1-40 (Canceled)

41. (Previously amended) A fusion protein comprising the immunogenic polypeptide of claim 53.

42. (Previously amended) The immunogenic polypeptide of claim 53 linked to a suitable carrier.

43. (Previously added) The immunogenic polypeptide of claim 42 linked to a disulfide/amide-forming agent.

44. (Previously added) The immunogenic polypeptide of claim 42 linked to a thio-ether-forming agent.

46. (Canceled)

47. (Canceled)

52. (Previously amended) An immunogenic composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and the immunogenic polypeptide of claim 53.

53. (Previously added) An immunogenic polypeptide consisting of the amino acid sequence motif Xaa-Thr-Xaa-Val-Thr-Gly-Gly-Xaa-Ala-Ala-Arg-Thr-Thr-Xaa-Gly-Xaa-Xaa-Ser-Leu-Phe-Xaa-Xaa-Gly-Xaa-Ser-Gln-Xaa-Ile-Gln-Leu-Ile (SEQ ID NO:8).

54. (Canceled)

55. (Previously added) The immunogenic polypeptide of claim 42, wherein the carrier is diphtheria toxoid.

56. (Previously added) The immunogenic composition of claim 52, wherein the carrier is diphtheria toxoid.

57. (Canceled)